

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully acknowledges receipt of the Final Office Action mailed July 1, 2005.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner (1) rejected claims 1, 6, 10, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Soviet Union Patent No. 659,503 (SU '503); (2) allowed claims 2-5; and (3) objected to claims 7-9 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner stated that claims 7-9 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 1, 6, 10, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). However, in order to obtain immediate allowance of this application, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 8 as suggested by the Examiner and has canceled claims 6, 7, and 11, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of claims 2-5.

Applicant also acknowledges the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 7-9. Consequently, Applicant has amended independent claim 1 to include the features of allowable claim 7 and intervening claim 6, and has canceled now superfluous claims 6 and 7. Accordingly, independent claim 1 is in condition for allowance. In addition, claims 8-10 are also in condition for allowance, at least due to their dependence from allowable claim 1.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, placing claims 1-5 and 8-10 in condition for allowance. The

Amendment After Final should allow for immediate action by the Examiner. In addition, Applicant submits that the entry of the Amendment would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner continue to dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable over the prior art references cited against this application. Applicant therefore requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims 1-5 and 8-10.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 6, 2005

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